GTSYS.003C1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant	:	Liang, et al.	Group Art Unit 1655
Appl. No.	:	09/919,758	
Filed	:	July 31, 2001	
For	:	METHOD FOR GENERATING TRANSCRIPTIONALLY ACTIVE DNA FRAGMENTS	
Examiner	:	Unknown	

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

January 22, 2002
(Date)

James J. Mullen III, Ph.D., Reg. No. 44,957

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-identified application on the merits, kindly amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 26, with the following paragraph:

In addition, molecules called PNA "clamps" have been synthesized which have two identical PNA sequences joined by a flexible hairpin linker containing three 8-amino-3,6-dioxaoctanoic acid units. When a PNA clamp is mixed with a complementary homopurine or homopyrimidine DNA target sequence, a PNA-DNA-PNA triplex hybrid can form which is extremely stable (Bentin et al., *Biochemistry* 35:8863-8869, 1996; Egholm et al., *Nucleic Acids Res.* 23:217-222, 1995; Griffith et al., *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 117:831-832, 1995). The sequence-specific and high affinity duplex and triplex binding of PNA have been extensively described (Nielsen et al., *Science* 254:1497-1500, 1991; Egholm et al., *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 114:9677-9678,